

What is claimed is:

1. A program development support apparatus
- 2 comprising:
- 3 a CPU (Central Processing Unit) for executing
- 4 a target program and outputting instruction
- 5 address/instruction code data;
- 6 event management means for asserting and
- 7 outputting a section trace start signal upon detecting
- 8 that the instruction address/instruction code data from
- 9 said CPU matches one of a predetermined instruction
- 10 address and predetermined instruction code set as an
- 11 event condition in advance;
- 12 trace data generation means for, when an
- 13 instruction code of the instruction address/instruction
- 14 code data from said CPU is a branch instruction, or the
- 15 section trace start signal from said event management
- 16 means is active, outputting an uncompressed instruction
- 17 address as trace data, and when the instruction address
- 18 of the instruction address/instruction code data is not
- 19 the branch instruction, and the section trace start
- 20 signal is not active, generating a plurality of
- 21 compressed instruction addresses by compressing the
- 22 instruction address of the instruction
- 23 address/instruction code data, and then combining the
- 24 compressed instruction addresses and outputting the
- 25 compressed instruction addresses as the trace data; and

26                   a trace memory for storing the trace data from  
27   said trace data generation means.

2.           An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
2           said event management means keeps a data latch  
3   signal active during a predetermined period and  
4   outputting the data latch signal, and  
5           said trace data generation means receives the  
6   instruction address/instruction code data from said CPU  
7   and the section trace start signal from said event  
8   management means and, when the data latch signal from  
9   said event management means is active, latches the  
10   instruction address/instruction code data.

3.           An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein  
2           said event management means comprises  
3           event setting means in which event setting  
4   data containing the predetermined instruction  
5   address/instruction code as the event condition and the  
6   active period of the data latch signal are set in  
7   advance, and  
8           event detection means for, upon detecting that  
9   the instruction address/instruction code contained in  
10   the event setting data output from said event setting  
11   means matches the instruction address/instruction code  
12   of the instruction address/instruction code data from  
13   said CPU, asserting and outputting the section trace

14 start signal and asserting the data latch signal during  
15 the active period set in said event setting means and  
16 outputting the data latch signal.

4. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein  
2 said trace data generation means comprises  
3 instruction address/instruction code latch  
4 means for latching the instruction address/instruction  
5 code data from said CPU during the active period of the  
6 data latch signal and outputting the instruction  
7 address/instruction code,  
8 instruction address data compression means for,  
9 when a received uncompressed data selection signal is  
10 active, outputting the instruction address from said  
11 instruction address/instruction code latch means as the  
12 compressed instruction address, and when the  
13 uncompressed data selection signal is not active,  
14 outputting difference data obtained by subtracting an  
15 immediately preceding instruction address from a current  
16 instruction address as the compressed instruction  
17 address,  
18 branch instruction determination means for  
19 determining whether the instruction code from said  
20 instruction address/instruction code latch means is the  
21 branch instruction, and upon determining that the  
22 instruction code is the branch instruction, asserting  
23 and outputting a branch instruction detection signal,

24                trace control means for, when the received  
25        uncompressed data selection signal is active, outputting  
26        the compressed instruction address from said instruction  
27        address data compression means as trace data, and when  
28        the uncompressed data selection signal is not active,  
29        combining a plurality of continuously received  
30        compressed instruction addresses in accordance with a  
31        bit width of said trace memory and outputting the  
32        combined instruction addresses as the trace data, and  
33        outputting a trace data write signal for instructing  
34        said trace memory to write the trace data and a trace  
35        memory address for designating a storage address of said  
36        trace memory, and

37                OR means for asserting and outputting the  
38        uncompressed data selection signal when at least one of  
39        the branch instruction detection signal from said branch  
40        instruction determination means and the section trace  
41        start signal from said event management means is active.

5.                An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

2                said apparatus further comprises frame address  
3        comparison means for asserting and outputting a frame  
4        match signal when the instruction address/instruction  
5        code contained in the event setting data output from  
6        said event setting means matches the trace memory  
7        address from said trace control means, and  
8                said OR means asserts and outputs the

9   uncompressed data selection signal when at least one of  
10   the branch instruction detection signal from said branch  
11   instruction determination means, the section trace start  
12   signal from said event detection means, and the frame  
13   match signal from said frame address comparison means is  
14   active.

6.       A program development support apparatus  
2   comprising:  
3       a trace memory for compressing and storing an  
4   instruction address that has traced a program; and  
5       event detection means for, upon detecting one  
6   of a preset predetermined instruction address and  
7   predetermined instruction code, controlling to write an  
8   instruction address, in which one of the predetermined  
9   instruction address and predetermined instruction code  
10   is stored, in said trace memory as uncompressed data.